

ADMINISTRATION OF VATICAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(In these notes "Foreign Affairs" are confined to political or quasi-political matters and do not include strictly religious subjects.)

Pope Pius XII

The Pope personally and immediately directs the Vatican's foreign affairs.

(With a background of a long career in the Vatican diplomatic service the present Pope is well-qualified in foreign affairs. First he served a long period at the Vatican Secretariate of State, then for 12 years was Nuncio in Bavaria and Germany, and finally was Secretary of State to Pope Pius XI for ten years.)

..... , Cardinal Secretary of State. (Post is vacant.)

At present the duties are divided between the two assistants.

(The post of Secretary of State is less important under the present Pope than at times in the past when Secretaries of State handled the Vatican's foreign affairs with little supervision from the Pope.)

S.E.R. Mons. Domenico Tardini, Secretary for Extraordinary Affairs

S.E.R. Mons. Giovanni Battista Montini, "Sostituto" for Ordinary Affairs and Secretary of the Cipher

In addition to the Secretariate of State, which is an Office of the Vatican, foreign affairs are handled by four Congregations, or administrative agencies headed by a committee of Cardinals. Reports from abroad are channeled through the Secretariate of State and then are turned over to the particular Congregation concerned. Likewise outgoing messages go through the Secretariate of State.

Office of Secretariate of State:

The Cardinal Secretary of State

Two chief assistants (mentioned above), respectively heads of Section I, Extraordinary Affairs, and Section II, Ordinary Affairs.

Mons. Domenico Spada, chief of Section III, Apostolic Briefs (certain types of Vatican documents)

Congregation of Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs:

The Cardinal Secretary of State, Prefect

Eleven other Cardinal members of the Congregation

S.E.R. Mons. Domenico Tardini, Secretary

Mons. Silvio Sericano, Under-secretary

Six consultants

The identical staff of officials of Section I, Extraordinary Affairs of the Secretariate of State

The Secretariate of State handles general Vatican foreign communications, especially with Nuncios.

The Congregation of Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs is in charge of official diplomatic matters with foreign governments including topics included in concordates and civil regulations affecting Vatican interests or religion.

The Vatican has Nuncios in the following countries--

Argentina
Belgium
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Columbia
Costarica
Cuba
Ecuador
Estonia (post vacant)
France
Germany
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
Ireland
Italy

Yugoslavia
Lettonia (post vacant)
Liberia (post vacant)
Lithuania (post vacant)
Luxembourg
Nicaragua
Holland
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Poland
Portugal
Dominican Republic
Romania
Salvador
Slovakia
Spain
Switzerland
Hungary
Uruguay
Venezuela

Consistorial Congregation:

The Pope, Prefect
Cardinal Raffaello Carlo Rossi, Secretary
Ten other Cardinal members of the Congregation
S.E.R. Mons. Benedetto Rensoni, Assessor
Mons. Giuseppe Ferratto, Sostituto

The Consistorial Congregation has charge of Church affairs
in the following countries where the Vatican is represented
by an Apostolic Delegate--

Canada & Newfoundland
Philippine Islands
Great Britain
Mexico
United States of America

Congregation for the Oriental Church:

The Pope, Prefect
Cardinal Eugenio Tisserant, Secretary
Sixteen other Cardinal members of the Congregation
S.E.R. Mons. Antonio Arata, Assessor
Mons. Giovanni Rosso, Sostituto

The Congregation for the Oriental Church has charge of Church affairs in the following areas where the Vatican is represented by an Apostolic Delegate--

Ethiopia
Bulgaria
Egypt & Arabia
Greece
Iran
Iraq
Syria
Turkey (post-vacant)

Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith:

Cardinal Pietro Fumasoni Biondi, Prefect
Twenty other Cardinal members of the Congregation
S.E.R. Mons. Celso Costantini, Secretary
Mons. Giulio Chiavoni, Under-secretary

The Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith has charge of activities in the following areas where the Vatican is represented by an Apostolic Delegate--

Africa
Albania
Australasia
China
Japan
India
Indo-china

Russia---

The Catholics in Russia who worship with an Eastern Rite of the Catholic Church are under the Congregation for the Oriental Church; those who use the Latin rite are under the Congregation of Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs. All general affairs concerning Russia are handled and studied by a special

Pontifical Commission for Russia (S.E.R. Mons. Tardini, president, Antonio Arata, Alfredo Ottaviani, Giovanni Battista Montini.)

SOURCES: Annuario Pontificio 1945 and several clergymen.

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